GSA Networx Transition Update

March 2011 Bulletin Fifteen

Introduction

This bulletin provides transition guidance information, transition progress, and status of issues related to the transition of services to the General Services Administration's (GSA) Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) Integrated Technology Services (ITS) Networx contracts.

Authority to Use Follow-On Bridge Contracts

This bulletin is to once again highlight pending Networx transition milestones and to alert you to a specific action you may need to take to protect the continuity of your network and telecommunications services. This action must be taken if projected that you will be unable to complete transition before the current FTS2001 Bridge and Crossover contracts expire.

As you know, the GSA FTS2001 Bridge and Crossover contracts expire soon. While GSA is working on another set of Sole Source Bridge contracts to extend services for Agencies that will be unable to transition before the current contracts expire, we intend to do so only for the Agencies that cannot reasonably complete transition within the current contract periods. Consequently, if your Agency is not named as an authorized user on the new FTS2001 Bridge contracts, your services will be disconnected at the expiration of the current contract(s) from which you are receiving services. Those expiration dates are as follows:

FTS2001 CONTRACT	EXPIRATION
Qwest	May 12, 2011
Sprint	May 31, 2011
MCI dba Verizon Business	June 30, 2011
AT&T	June 30, 2011

In order to be named as an authorized user of the new Bridge contracts, the Agency must notify GSA by March 31, 2011 of two critical pieces of information. In an email to debbie.hren@gsa.gov, please provide the following: (1) state that you require the use of the new Bridge contracts for FTS2001 services, (2) identify a specific point-of-contact for managing communications with GSA regarding the progress of transition. This point of contact may be the Agency's transition manager or another contact, and the notification email must clearly indicate the person's name, phone number, and email address.

In addition, we request that you provide the date your transition will be complete, or the reason why that information cannot be provided. Upon receiving your request, GSA will provide you confirmation that we received your request and will add your Agency as an authorized user.

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For Agencies who do not respond according to the paragraph above, GSA will disconnect their existing services from the current FTS2001 Bridge and Crossover contracts by the aforementioned contracts' expiration dates. To do so, beginning in April 2011, GSA will issue disconnect orders on behalf of the Agencies for all services on the current contracts.

Once GSA issues these disconnects, the Agencies will have little recourse for maintaining service continuity, and other consequences may occur. For some services, the Agencies may incur casual billing rates much higher than those on FTS2001 and Networx; other services may simply become unavailable. At that point, Agencies must make a fair opportunity decision to select a Networx contractor, order services on Networx, and endure the service delivery intervals to implement those services.

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